

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 06420 241848Z

44

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ERDE-00 NRC-05 /088 W
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O P 241800Z NOV 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4813

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 6420

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT: MBFR: OPTION III: REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE FOR NOVEMBER 26 NAC

REFS: A) USNATO 6408 DTG 241630Z NOV 75

B) STATE 277369 DTG 222117Z NOV 75

C) STATE 272642 DTG 211957Z NOV 75

1. WE NOTED IN REF A THAT AT NOVEMBER 26 NAC WE SHALL MAKE A STATEMENT BASED ON PARAS 1 TO 3, REF B. SUBSEQUENT TO THAT MESSAGE, ONE POINT HAS ARISEN ON WHICH WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE.

2. THE AHG IN ITS LAST REPORT TO THE NAC MADE CLEAR THAT WHETHER THE NEGOTIATING ROUND ENDS ON DECEMBER 11, OR WHETHER THE AHG EXTENDS IT TO DECEMBER 18 DEPENDS ON THE LIKELIHOOD OF THE AHG RECEIVING GUIDANCE ON OPTION III FOR USE WITH THE EAST THIS NEGOTIATING ROUND. THIS QUESTION WILL ARISE AT THE NOVEMBER 26 NAC. UK DELEGATION OFFIER (BAILES) HAS INFORMED US THAT LONDON HAS BEEN VERY SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 06420 241848Z

SKEPTICAL AS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF COMPLETING WORK ON OPTION III THIS NEGOTIATING ROUND IN THE ABSENCE OF A TARGET DATE FOR USE OF OPTION III WITH THE OTHER SIDE. SHE DID NOT KNOW TO WHAT EXTENT THE US POSITIONS IN REFS B AND C WOULD CHANGE LONDON'S

ESTIMATE. ALTHOUGH THE CHOICE OF A CLOSING DATE IN VIENNA IS UP TO THE AHG TO DECIDE, SHE SAID THAT SHE WOULD NOT EXCLUDE THAT THE UK MIGHT POINT OUT IN THE NAC THAT IT WOULD CAUSE EMBARRASSMENT FOR THE ALLIES IF THE AHG EXTENDED THE NEGOTIATING ROUND TO DECEMBER 18 AND THEN HAD NOTHING NEW TO PROPOSE.

3. IT APPEARS TO US THAT, GIVEN THE POSITIONS IN REFS B & C, IT MAY WELL BE FEASIBLE TO COMPLETE THE OPTION III DELIBERATIONS IN A RELATIVELY BRIEF PERIOD OF TIME, SO THAT THE ALLIES WOULD HAVE THE OPTION OF PRESENTING THE PROPOSAL TO THE EAST DURING THE CURRENT NEGOTIATING ROUND. HOWEVER, PRESERVING THE OPTION OF PRESENTATION TO THE EAST THIS NEGOTIATING ROUND WOULD SEEM TO DICTATE A DECEMBER 18 CLOSING DATE IN VIENNA. US DEL VIENNA WOULD BE IN THE BEST POSITION TO COMMENT ON WHETHER SERIOUS EMBARRASSMENT WOULD RESULT IF THE AHG EXTENDED THE NEGOTIATING ROUND TO DECEMBER 28, AND THEN HAD NO NEW PROPOSAL, EITHER BECAUSE ALLIED WORK WAS NOT QUITE COMPLETE, OR BECAUSE THE ALLIES HAD DECIDED NOT TO PLAY OPTION III DURING THE PRESENT NEGOTIATING ROUND.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: IN TIME FOR NAC MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, AND IN LIGHT OF ANY COMMENT VIENNA MIGHT WISH TO MAKE: GUIDANCE ON WHAT PREFERENCE THE US HAS FOR THE CLOSING DATE OF THE PRESENT NEGOTIATING ROUND IN VIENNA, IF A DISCUSSION OF THIS QUESTION DEVELOPS AT THAT NAC MEETING.
BRUCE

SECRET

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE
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